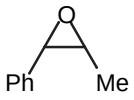
Supporting Information

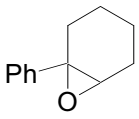
All reactions were carried out under an argon atmosphere in oven dried glassware unless otherwise specified. Ethyl acetate was purchased anhydrous from Aldrich Chemical Company and was used without further purification. Methanol was distilled under a nitrogen atmosphere over calcium hydride. Triethylamine was distilled over calcium hydride and stored over potassium hydroxide. Formic acid was purchased from Breckland Scientific Supplies. Pd-EnCat^{TM} was obtained from Avecia. All other reagents were used as supplied by Aldrich, Acros or Lancaster. NMR spectra were recorded in $CDCl_3$ unless otherwise stated. NMR spectra were recorded at 25 ºC in 5mm tubes, at 400.1 MHz (^{1}H) or 100.6 MHz (^{13}C) on a Bruker DPX400 instrument. Chemical shifts are quoted relative to the residual solvent peak (7.24 δ for ^{1}H and 77.0 δ for ^{13}C). IR spectra were recorded using Perkin-Elmer Spectrum One FT-IR spectrometer as neat solids. Mass spectra were recorded on a Kratos 890 spectrometer. Optical rotations were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer Model 343 Polarimeter.

Cis-2-methyl-3-phenyl-oxirane[1]



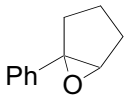
Cis-β-methyl styrene (0.23 g, 1.95 mmol) was added portionwise to a stirred solution of *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid (77 %, 0.56 g, 2.5 mmol) in dichloromethane (30 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 14 hours. Calcium hydroxide (0.25g) was added, and the reaction mixture filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford 0.22g (84 %) of the epoxide as a clear, colourless oil: ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.38-7.30 (m, 5H), 4.07 (d, J 4.3 Hz, 1H), 3.35 (dq, J 4.3, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 1.10 (d, J 5.5 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 135.5, 128.0, 127.5, 126.6, 57.5, 55.1, 12.5; spectra consistent with known data.[1]

1,2-epoxy-2-phenylcyclohexene[2]



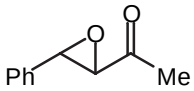
1-phenyl-1-cyclohexene (0.53 mL, 0.53 g, 3.16 mmol) was added portionwise to a stirred solution of *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid (77 %, 0.84 g, 3.75 mmol) in dichloromethane (15 mL) at 0 ^{o}C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 18 hours. The reaction mixture was diluted with 10 % NaOH (50 mL), extracted with dichloromethane (3 x 30 mL), dried with $MgSO_4$, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification by column chromatography (2 % Et_2O in pet. ether) afforded 0.36g (66 %) of 1,2-epoxy-2-phenylcyclohexene as a clear, colourless oil: ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.39-7.27 (5H, m), 3.07 (m, 1H), 2.35-1.95 (m, 4H), 1.68-1.18 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 142.5, 128.2, 127.2, 125.3, 61.9, 60.2, 28.9, 24.7, 20.1, 19.8; IR (neat) ν 3028, 2936, 2860, 1494, 1446; m/z (EI) 174.1036 (M^+ - $C_{12}H_{14}O$ requires 174.1045).

1,2-epoxy-2-phenyl-cyclopentene[3]



1-phenyl-1-cyclopentene (0.47 g, 3.18 mmol) was added portionwise to a stirred solution of *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid (77 %, 0.89 g, 3.97 mmol) in dichloromethane (15 mL) at 0 ^{o}C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 14 hours. The reaction mixture was diluted with 10 % NaOH (50 mL), extracted with dichloromethane (3 x 30 mL), dried with $MgSO_4$, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification by column chromatography (5 % Et_2O in pet. ether) afforded 0.27g (55 %) of 1,2-epoxy-2-phenyl-cyclopentene as a clear, colourless oil: ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.42-7.28 (m, 5H), 3.58 (m, 1H), 2.23-1.58 (m, 6H, m); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 138.0, 128.3, 127.6, 125.9, 66.9, 66.4, 28.9, 28.1, 19.3; IR (neat) ν 3029, 2954, 2854, 1604, 1498, 1403; m/z (EI) 160.0882 (M^+ - $C_{11}H_{12}O$ requires 160.0889).

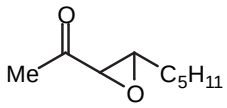
1-(3-phenyl-oxiranyl)-ethanone [4]



Hydrogen peroxide (35 %, 1 mL, 11.7 mmol) was added slowly over 10 minutes to a stirred solution of *trans*-4-phenyl-buten-3-one (0.52g, 3.6 mmol) in methanol (5 mL) at 5

^{o}C. NaOH (2M, 1 mL) was added over 20 minutes, and the mixture stirred at room temperature for 3 hours. Saturated $Na_2S_2O_5$ solution was used to destroy any remaining peroxide whilst keeping the temperature below 40 ^{o}C. The mixture was diluted with water (40 mL), extracted with ether (3 x 40 mL), dried with $MgSO_4$, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification by column chromatography (9:1 pet. ether: Et_2O) yielded 0.31g (54%) of 1-(3-phenyl-oxiranyl)-ethanone as a white solid: mp 41-42^{o}C (lit.[5] mp 40-41.5 ^{o}C (MeOH)); ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.42-7.21 (m, 5H), 4.00 (d, *J* 1.8 Hz, 1H), 3.48 (d, *J* 1.8 Hz, 1H), 2.18 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 204.0, 135.0, 128.9, 128.6, 125.6, 63.4, 57.6, 24.7; IR (neat) ν 3064, 3013, 1708, 1460, 1355; m/z (ESI) 185.0577 (M^+ + Na - $C_{10}H_{10}O_2$ Na requires 185.0579).

1-(3-pentyl-oxiranyl)-ethanone



Hydrogen peroxide (35 %, 1.2 mL, 14.1 mmol) was added slowly over 10 minutes to a stirred solution of *trans*-3-nonen-2-one (0.43 mL, 0.35g, 2.47 mmol) in methanol (5 mL) at 5 ^{o}C. NaOH (2M, 1 mL) was added over 30 minutes, and the mixture stirred at room temperature for 7 hours. Saturated $Na_2S_2O_5$ solution was used to destroy any remaining peroxide whilst maintaining the temperature below 40 ^{o}C. The mixture was diluted with water (40 mL), extracted with ether (3 x 40 mL), dried with $MgSO_4$, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification by column chromatography (9:1 pet. ether: Et_2O) yielded 0.24g (61 %) of 1-(3-pentyl-oxiranyl)-ethanone as a clear, colourless oil: ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 3.16 (d, *J* 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.06 (td, *J* 5.5, 2.0 Hz,1H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 1.61 (m, 2H), 1.45 (m, 2H), 1.32 (m, 4H), 0.88 (t, *J* 7.0 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 206.0, 59.9, 58.0, 31.7, 31.6, 25.4, 24.3, 22.4, 13.9; IR (neat) ν 2930, 2860, 1709; m/z (ESI) 179.1048 (M^+ + Na – $C_9H_{16}O_2$ Na requires 179.1049).

Preparation of $EnPd(OAc)_2$ (Pd-EnCat^{TM})

$EnPd(OAc)_2$ was prepared by Avecia using a procedure based on the following protocol: polymethylene polyphenylene di-isocyanate (SUPRASEC 5025, average functionality of

2.7) and the palladium acetate was dissolved in chloroform. This solution was then dispersed at 800rpm for one minute into an aqueous solution of sodium lignosulfonate (Reax 100 M), polyvinyl alcohol (Gohsenol GL 03) and the polyoxyethylene ether of butyl alcohol (Tergitol XD) using a laboratory overhead stirrer fitted with a 50mm rotary blade. The resulting oil in water emulsion had a particle size range of 20-250 microns and was gently shaken for 16h. The polyurea microcapsules obtained were filtered through a polyethylene frit (20-micron porosity), and were washed with de-ionized water (5 x 50mL), aceteone (5 x 50mL) and ether (3 x 50mL) and dried at room temperature.

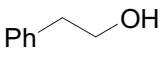
Reduction of EnPd(OAc)$_2$ to Pd^0-EnCat^{TM}

EnPd(OAc)$_2$ (0.4 mmol/g, 0.4 g) in ether (8 mL) and formic acid (8 mL) at 45 ^oC for 2 hours. The mixture was allowed to cool, and the microcapsules filtered through a polyethylene frit (20 micron porosity), washed with distilled water (3 x 30mL), acetone (3 x 30mL) and ether (3 x 30mL). The microcapsules were dried under oil pump vacuum (approximately 0.5 mm Hg or better) at 45 ^oC for 5 hours to yield black Pd^0-EnCat microcapsules (0.35g).

General procedure for reductive cleavage of epoxides by transfer hydrogenation

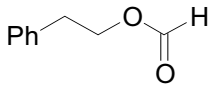
The epoxide substrate (0.5 mmol, 0.4 M) and Pd^0-EnCat^{TM} (0.4 mmol/g, 63 mg, 0.025 mmol) were dissolved in anhydrous ethyl acetate (0.75 mL). Distilled triethylamine (0.30 mL, 0.22 g, 2.15 mmol) and then formic acid (90 %, 0.09 mL, 100mg, 2.15 mmol) were added, and the reaction stirred under argon at 23 ^oC until TLC analysis indicated that the reaction was complete. The reaction mixture was decanted off, and the microcapsules washed with ethyl acetate. The mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography (eluting with ether in pet. ether) to yield the alcohol product, details of any other products are given if sufficient purified material was obtained for analysis.

2-phenyl ethanol [6]



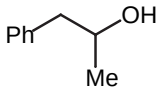
Purification by column chromatography (2:1 pet. ether: Et_2O) yielded 400mg (84 %) of the alcohol as colourless oil: ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.22-7.34 (m, 5H), 3.87 (t, *J* 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.88 (t, *J* 6.6 Hz, 2H), 1.43 (s, 1H); ^{1}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 138.5, 129.0, 128.5, 126.4, 63.6, 39.1; IR (neat) ν 3300), 3063, 3028, 2944, 2874, 1603, 1496, 1453; m/z (EI) 122.0733 (M^+– $C_8H_{10}O_1$ requires 122.0732).

2-Phenylethyl formate



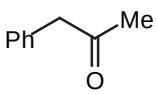
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.04 (s, 1H), 7.33-7.23 (m, 5H), 4.41 (t, *J* 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.99 (t, *J* 7.0 Hz, 2H) ; ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 160.1, 137.8, 128.5, 128.4, 126.7, 64.3, 34.9; spectra consistent with known data.[7]

(R)-(-)-1-phenyl-propan-2-ol



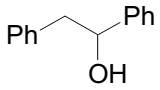
Purification by column chromatography (2:1 pet. ether: Et_2O) yielded 45.6 mg (90 %) of the alcohol as colourless oil: $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ -32.8^o (c=1.025, $CHCl_3$)[8]; ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.35-7.21 (m, 5H), 4.01 (m, 1H), 2.78 (dd, *J* 13.4, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.70 (dd, *J* 7.8, 13.4 Hz, 1H), 2.01 (br s,1H), 1.25 (d, *J* 6.2 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 138.5, 129.4, 128.5, 126.5, 68.8, 45.8, 22.8; IR (neat) ν 3350, 3062, 3027, 2970, 2029, 1599, 1496, 1453; m/z (EI) 136.0895 (M^+– $C_9H_{12}O_1$ requires 136.0889).

1-phenylpropan-2-one



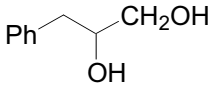
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.34-7.20 (m, 5H), 3.70 (s, 2H), 2.16 (s, 3H); spectra consistent with known data.[9]

1,2-diphenyl-ethanol [10]



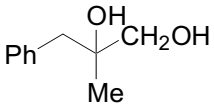
Purification by column chromatography (2:1 pet. ether: Et_2O) yielded 95.3 mg (99%) of the alcohol as yellow crystalline solid: mp 65-66 ^{o}C (lit.[10] mp. 66 ^{o}C); ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.38-7.20 (m, 10H), 4.92-4.89 (m, 1H), 3.06-3.02 (m, 2H), 2.00 (s, 1H) ; ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 143.8, 138.0, 129.5, 128.5, 128.4, 127.6, 126.6, 125.9, 75.3, 46.1; IR (neat) ν 3380, 3062, 3028, 2918, 1602, 1494, 1453; m/z (EI) 198.1036 (M^{+}– $C_{14}H_{14}O_1$ requires 198.1045).

3-phenyl-propan-1,2-diol [11]



Purification by column chromatography (2:1 pet. ether: Et_2O) yielded 72.5 mg (95 %) of the alcohol as white solid; mp 64-65 ^{o}C; ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.20-7.33 (m, 5H), 3.91 (d, *J* 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.65 (d, *J* 11.1 Hz, 1H), 3.65 (d, *J* 11.1 Hz, 1H), 3.45-3.50 (s, 1H), 2.76 (d, *J* 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.56 (br s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 137.8, 129.3, 128.6, 126.5, 73.0, 66.0, 39.8; IR (neat) ν 3230, 3029, 2923, 2862, 1495, 1456; m/z (EI) 152.0842 (M^{+}– $C_9H_{12}O_2$ requires 152.0838).

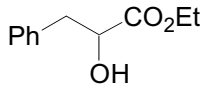
Methyl-3-phenyl-propan-1,2-diol [12]



Purification by column chromatography (Et_2O) yielded 63.6mg (93 %) of the alcohol as white crystals: mp 65-67 ^{o}C (lit.[13] mp.66.5-67.5 ^{o}C ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.44-7.34 (m, 5H), 3.60 (d, *J* 10.9 Hz, 1H), 3.54 (d, *J* 10.9 Hz, 1H), 2.96 (d, *J* 13.3 Hz 1H), 2.90 (d, *J* 13.3 Hz, 1H), 2.07 (br s, 2H), 1.25 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ

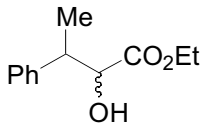
137.0, 130.4, 128.3, 126.5, 73.3, 69.2, 44.6, 23.5;); IR (neat) ν 3359, 3028, 2971, 2926, 1602, 1494, 1453; m/z (ESI) 189.0890 (M^+ + Na– $C_{10}H_{14}O_2Na$ requires 189.0892).

2-Hydroxy-3-phenyl-propionic acid ethyl ester [14]



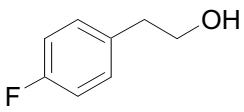
Purification by column chromatography (1:2 pet ether : Et_2O) yielded 89.5 mg (92 %) of the alcohol as a clear liquid: ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.33-7.22 (m, 5H), 4.44 (m, 1H) 4.22 (q, *J* 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.13 (dd, *J* 4.5, 13.9 Hz, 1H), 2.97 (dd, *J* 6.8, 13.9 Hz, 1H), 2.84 (d, *J* 6.2 Hz, 1H), 1.28 (t, *J* 7.1 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ174.6, 136.3, 129.5, 128.3, 126.8, 71.2, 61.6, 40.5, 14.1; IR (neat) ν 3480, 3030, 2980, 1730 (s), 1497, 1456; m/z (ESI) 217.0842 (M^+ + Na – $C_{11}H_{14}O_3Na$ requires 217.0841).

2-Hydroxy-3-phenyl-butyric acid ethyl ester



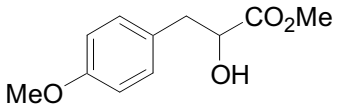
The starting material used was a mixture of *cis* and *trans* ethyl 3-methyl-3-phenylglycidate. Purification by column chromatography (2:1 pet ether : Et_2O) yielded 99.4 mg (94 %) of the alcohol as a clear liquid, as a one to one mixture of diastereomers: ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.21-7.32 (m, 10H), 4.31 (br s, 2H), 4.20 (q, *J* 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.14 (q, *J* 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.28-3.25 (m, 1H), 3.24-3.20 (m, 1H), 2.85 (d, *J* 6 Hz, 1H), 2.68 (d, *J* 6 Hz, 1H), 1.45 (d, *J* 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.37 (d, *J* 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.24 (t, *J* 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.23 (t, *J* 7.1 Hz, 3H) ; ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 174.1, 173.7, 142.6, 140.7, 128.3, 128.2, 127.8, 126.7, 75.0, 74.9, 61.6, 61.5, 43.4, 17.6, 14.6, 14.1, 14.0; IR (neat) ν 3490, 3028, 2980, 2936, 1726, 1453; m/z (ESI) 231.0993 (M^+ + Na – $C_{12}H_{16}O_3Na$ requires 231.0997).

2-(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-ethanol [15]



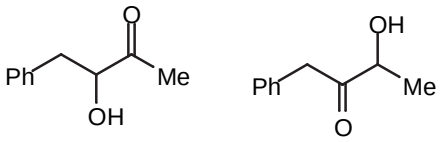
Purification by column chromatography (1:1 pet ether : Et_2O) yielded 58.0mg (82 %) of the alcohol as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.10-6.88 (m, 4H), 3.72 (d, *J* 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.73 (d, *J* 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.31 (br s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 161.6 (d, $^1J_{CF}$ 242.8 Hz), 134.1 (d, $^4J_{CF}$ 3.3 Hz), 130.3 (d, $^3J_{CF}$ 7.9 Hz), 115.2 (d, $^1J_{CF}$ 21.0 Hz), 63.5, 38.2; IR (neat) ν 3340, 2937, 2875, 1721, 1601, 1508, 1415; m/z (EI) 140.06375 (M^+– C_8FH_9O requires 140.06377).

2-Hydroxy-3-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-propionic acid methyl ester [16]



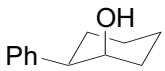
Purification by column chromatography (3:1 pet ether : Et_2O) yielded 58.0 mg (82 %) the alcohol as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.13-6.82 (m, 4H), 4.41 (m, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.06 (dd, *J* 4.4 Hz, 14.0 Hz, 1H), 2.91 (dd, *J* 6.6 Hz, 14.0 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (br s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 174.5, 158.6, 130.5, 128.2, 113.9, 71.4, 55.2, 52.4, 39.6; IR (neat) ν 3475, 2955, 2837, 1733, 1611, 1511; m/z (ESI) 233.0792 (M^+ + Na– $C_{11}H_{14}O_4Na$ requires 233.0790).

3-Hydroxy-4-phenyl-butan-2-one (1) and 3-hydroxy-1-phenyl-butan-2-one (2) [17]



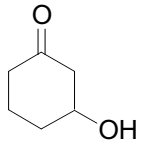
Purification by column chromatography (1:1 pet ether : Et_2O) yielded 71.0 mg (87 %) of the product as a clear oil an inseparable mixture of products **1** and **2** in a 6:1 ratio: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.36-7.20 (m, 5H), 4.41 (**1**, dd, *J* 4.7, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (**2**, q, *J* 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (**2**, d, *J* 15.8 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (**2**, d, *J* 15.8 Hz, 1H), 3.5 (br, OH), 3.13 (**1**, dd, *J* 5.3, 14.2 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (**1**, dd, *J* 5.3 Hz, 14.2 Hz, 1H), 2.19 (**1**, s, 3H), 1.41 (**2**, d, *J* 7.0 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 209.9 (**2**), 209.2 (**1**), 136.4 (**1**), 133.0 (**2**), 129.3 (**2**), 129.2 (**1**), 128.7 (**2**), 128.5 (**1**), 127.2 (**2**), 126.8 (**1**), 77.6 (**1**), 72.2 (**2**), 44.5 (**2**), 39.8 (**1**), 25.8 (**1**), 19.7 (**2**); IR (neat) ν 3415, 3030, 2870, 2251, 1711, 1603, 1454; m/z (ESI) 187.0740 (M^+ + Na– $C_{10}H_{12}O_2$ requires 187.0735).

***cis*-2-Phenyl-cyclohexanol**



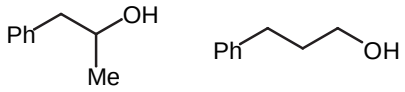
Purification by column chromatography (9:1 pet ether : Et_2O) yielded 72.2 mg (84 %) of the alcohol as a yellow solid: mp 41-43 ^oC; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.36-7.22 (m, 5H), 4.02 (s, 1H), 2.76 (d, *J* 12.8 Hz), 2.08 (dq, *J* 3.6, 12.8 Hz, 1H), 2.01-1.97 (m, 1H), 1.94-1.33 (m, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 144.0, 128.9, 127.7, 126.4, 70.5, 48.0, 32.9, 26.2, 24.3, 19.5; IR (neat) ν 3440, 3026, 2929, 2860, 1601, 1496, 1446; m/z (EI) 176.1195 (M^+– $C_{12}H_{16}O$ requires 176.1202); product identified by comparison to spectra for *trans*-2-phenyl-cyclohexanol.[18]

3-hydroxy-1-cyclohexanone [19]



Purification by column chromatography (Et_2O) yielded 45.4 mg (81 %) of the alcohol as a colourless oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 4.18 (br s, 1H), 2.64 (dd, *J* 4.1 Hz, 14.0 Hz, 1H), 2.39 (dd, *J* 7.6, 14.0 Hz, 1H), 2.30 (t, *J* 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.24 (s, 1H), 2.11-1.96 (m, 2H), 1.80-1.64 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 210.0, 69.7, 50.4, 40.9, 32.8, 20.6; IR (neat) ν 3540, 2940, 2300, 2250, 1712; m/z (EI) 114.0679 (M^+– $C_6H_{10}O_2$ requires 114.0681).

Reduction of 2-benzyl oxirane



2-benzyl oxirane (0.20g, 1.52 mmol) and Pd^0-EnCat^{TM} (0.4 mmol/g, 191 mg, 0.076 mmol) were dissolved in distilled methanol (3 mL). The reaction was stirred under hydrogen (40 bar) for 19 hours. The reaction mixture was decanted off, and the microcapsules washed with ethyl acetate. The mixture was concentrated under reduced

pressure and the residue purified by flash column chromatography (2:1 Et_2O : pet ether), yielding 144.2 mg (70 %) of 1-phenyl-propan-2-ol (**3**) as a colourless oil: ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.35-7.21 (m, 5H), 4.01 (m, 1H), 2.78 (dd, *J* 13.4, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 2.70 (dd, *J* 7.8, 13.4 Hz, 1H), 2.01 (br s,1H), 1.25 (d, *J* 6.2 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 138.5, 129.4, 128.5, 126.5, 68.8, 45.8, 22.8; IR (neat) ν 3350, 3062, 3027, 2970, 2029, 1599, 1496, 1453; m/z (EI) 136.0895 (M^+– $C_9H_{12}O_1$ requires 136.0889); and 29.7 mg (15 %) of 3-phenyl-propan-1-ol (**4**) as a clear colourless oil: ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.35-7.21 (m, 5H), 3.64 (t, J 5.7 Hz, 2H), 2.72 (t, *J* 5.7 Hz, 2H), 1.99 (s, br, 1H), 1.89 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 141.8, 128.4, 125.9, 62.3, 34.2, 32.1; spectra consistent with known data.[20]

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